

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a bifurcated endoluminal stent or prosthesis having a proximal portion and a first distal portion into vasculature at an aneological bifurcation where a blood vessel branches into a first branched vessel and a second branched vessel, said method comprising:

inserting a first introducer containing said stent or prosthesis into the vasculature to a predetermined delivery location, said first introducer comprising an outer sheath, a proximal portion pusher, and a distal portion pusher;

withdrawing said outer sheath of said first introducer while maintaining said proximal portion pusher in a fixed position until said proximal portion of said stent or prosthesis is deployed from said first introducer into said blood vessel;

withdrawing said outer sheath and said proximal portion pusher while maintaining said distal portion pusher in a fixed position until said first distal portion of said stent or prosthesis is deployed from said first introducer at least partially into said first branched vessel; and

withdrawing said first introducer from the vasculature.

55-58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently Amended) A bifurcated prosthesis for use near an aneological bifurcation of a blood vessel into two branched vessels comprising:

a bifurcated stent having a bifurcated proximal stent portion adapted to be disposed within said blood vessel, a first distal stent portion adapted to extend

across the bifurcation into one of the branched vessels, and a second distal stent portion shorter than said first distal stent portion and configured to be disposed entirely within said blood vessel, wherein the second distal stent portion comprises a distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion which when in an expanded configuration serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of an additional stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice, wherein the frustoconical configuration terminates at an end of the additional stent and the tapering portion terminates at the distal end of the second distal stent portion and wherein the distal orifice remains in the expanded configuration after receiving the male engaging portion; and

a graft layer formed from a bio-compatible fabric disposed in juxtaposition with said bifurcated stent.

60-61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 54 further comprising attaching to said proximal portion a second distal portion that extends into said second branched vessel.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a stent to an aneological bifurcation of a vessel into two branched vessels comprising:

placing in the vessel a first bifurcated stent having at least one leg disposed entirely within the vessel, the bifurcated stent also having at least one distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion of the at least one leg which when in an expanded configuration serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of a second stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice, wherein the frustoconical configuration terminates at an end of the additional stent and the tapering portion terminates at the distal end of the

second distal stent portion and wherein the distal orifice remains in the expanded configuration after receiving the male engaging portion; and

attaching to said leg disposed entirely within the vessel the second stent that extends into one of the two branched vessels.

64. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 63 wherein placing the first bifurcated stent further comprises extending a leg of the first bifurcated stent into one of the two branched vessels.

65-66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently Amended) A bifurcated stent assembly having an assembly bifurcation for use with an anatomical bifurcation of a blood vessel into two branched vessels, said bifurcated stent assembly comprising:

a first bifurcated stent comprising a proximal stent portion and two intermediate stent portions extending distally relative to said assembly bifurcation, wherein at least one of the intermediate stent portions has a distal orifice at a distal end of a tapering portion which when in an expanded configuration serves to receive a male engaging portion having a frustoconical configuration of ~~at least one~~ a second stent completely within a female engaging portion of the distal orifice, wherein the frustoconical configuration terminates at an end of the additional stent and the tapering portion terminates at the distal end of the second distal stent portion and wherein the distal orifice remains in the expanded configuration after receiving the male engaging portion; and

~~the at least one~~ second stent joined to ~~at least one of said~~ the distal orifice orifices of said first bifurcated stent and adapted to allow blood to flow from the proximal stent portion of said first bifurcated stent into one of said branched vessels.

68. (Previously Presented) The bifurcated prosthesis as claimed in claim 59

further comprising said additional stent mated to said second distal stent portion, said additional stent having a graft layer formed from a bio-compatible fabric disposed in juxtaposition with it and adapted to allow blood to flow from the bifurcated proximal stent portion into the other branched vessel.